1	2	3
18.	Orissa	20·51
19.	Punjab	13·46
20.	Rajasthan	18·03
21.	Sikkim	2·98
22.	Tamil Nadu	45·95
23.	Tripura	7·22
24.	Uttar Pradesh.	66·62
25.	West Bengal	35·91
	TOTAL (A)	573·02
	B—*UTs with Legislature*	7·38
	C—*UTs without Legislatures*	
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0·17
2.	Chandigarh	1·02
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0·59
4.	Daman & Diu	2·97
5.	Delhi	8·83
6.	Lakshadweep	0·17
	TOTAL (C)	13·57
	TOTAL A+B+C	594·15

Availability of cement in rural areas

1587. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have called upon the cement industry to improve its productivity and ensure availability of cement in the rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to set up cement industries/plants in rural areas of the country; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps Government propose to take to make availability of cement in the rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) In the recent meeting of the Development Council for Cement Industry, the Cement Industry has been asked to improve its productivity. The industry has also been asked to adopt innovative marketing policies to generate increasing demand for cement in rural areas. Cement is, however, freely available throughout the country at a price determined by the operation of market forces.

Most of the cement plants either existing or under implementation, are located in rural areas, where adequate limestone deposits of suitable grade have been established. As a policy, cement plants in the organised sector are encouraged where limestone reserves are available.